

## S W O

SWOBER. *n. f.* [See SWABBER.]

1. A sweeper of the deck.

Cubb'd in a cabin, on a mattress laid,  
On a brown george with lousy swabbers tied. *Dryden.*

Four privileged cards that are only incidentally used in betting  
at the game of whist.  
The clergyman used to play at whist and swabbers: playing  
now and then a sober game at whist for pastime, it might be  
pardoned; but he could not digest those wicked swabbers. *Swift.*

SWOLLEN. } The participle passive of *swell*.

SWOLN.

Unto his aid she hastily did draw  
Her dreadful beast, who, swollen with blood of late,  
Came ramping forth with proud presumptuous gait. *F. Q.*

When thus the gather'd forms of wretched love  
In my swollen bosom with long war had strove,  
At length they broke their bounds: at length their force  
Bore down whatever met its stronger couric;  
Laid all the civil bonds of manhood waste,  
And scatter'd ruin as the torrent past. *Prior.*

Whereas at first we had only three of these principles, their  
number is already swollen to five. *Baker on Learning.*

I swim with the tide, and the water was buoyant under  
me. *Dryden.*

To SWOON. *v. n.* [ayrunan, Saxon.] To suffer a suspension  
of thought and sensation; to faint.

So play the foolish throngs with one that sways;  
By which he should revive. *Shakespeare.*

If thou stand'st not 't' th' state of hanging, or of some death  
more long in spectatorship, and crueler in suffering, behold  
now presently, and swim for what's to come upon thee. *Shak.*

We see the great and sudden effect of smells in fetching  
men again, when they swim. *Bacon.*

The most in years swim'd first away for pain;  
Then, scarce recover'd, spoke. *Dryden.*

The woman finds it all a trick,  
That he could swim when she was sick;  
And knows that in that grief he reckon'd  
On black-eyed Susan for his second. *Prior.*

There appeared such an ecstasy in his action, that he seem'd  
ready to swim away in the surpize of joy. *Taylor.*

SWOON. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A lipthymy; a fainting fit.

To SWOOP. *v. a.* [I suppose formed from the sound.]

1. To fall at once as a hawk upon his prey.

A fowl in Madagascar, called a ruck, the feathers of whose  
wings are twelve paces, can with as much ease swoop up an  
elephant as our kites do a mouse. *Wilkins.*

This mould'ring piecemeal in your hands did fall,  
And now at last you came to swoop it all. *Dryden.*

2. To prey upon; to catch up.

The physician looks with another eye on the medicinal herb  
than the grazing ox, which swoops it in with the common  
grass. *Glanv. Scip.*

SWOOP. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Fall of a bird of prey upon his  
quarry.

All my pretty ones?  
Did you say all? What, all? O hellkite! all!

What, all my pretty chickens and their dam,  
At one fell swoop? *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

The eagle fell into the fox's quarters, and carried away a  
whole litter of cubs at a swoop. *L'Estrange.*

To SWOP. *v. a.* [Of uncertain derivation.] To change; to  
exchange one thing for another. A low word.

When I drove a thrust home, he put it by,  
And cried, as in derision, spare the stripling;  
Oh that insulting word! I would have swoop'd  
Youth for old age, and all my life behind,  
To have been then a momentary man. *Dryden's Cleomenes.*

SWORD. *n. f.* [swoord, Saxon; *swerd*, Dutch.]

1. A weapon used either in cutting or thrusting; the usual  
weapon of fights hand to hand.

Old unhappy traitor, the sword is out  
That must destroy thee. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

Each man took his sword, and slew all the males. *Gen.*

Euryalus is the only peer that is described with a sword,  
which he gives to Ulysses to repair his injury. *Braune.*

2. Destruction by war.

The sword without, and terror within. *Dent. xxxii. 25.*

3. Vengeance of justice.

4. Emblem of authority.

This I, her sword bearer, do carry, *Hudibras.*

SWORDED. *adj.* [from sword.] Girt with a sword.

Are seen in glittering ranks with wings display'd. *Milton.*

SWORDER. *n. f.* [from sword.] A cut-throat; a soldier. In  
contempt.

A Roman sworder and banditto slave  
Murder'd sweet Tully. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

## S Y C

Caesar will  
Unstate his happiness, and be flag'd to th' shew  
Against a sworder. *Shakespeare.*

SWORDFISH. *n. f.* A fish with a long sharp bone issuing from  
his head.

A swordfish small him from the rest did funder,  
That in his throat him pricking softly under,  
His wide abyss him forced forth to spew. *Spenser.*

Malpighi observed the middle of the optic nerve of the  
swordfish to be a large membrane, folded, according to its  
length, in many doubles, like a fan. *Derham's Physico-Theol.*

Our little fleet was now engag'd so far,  
That, like the swordfish in the whale, they fought;  
The combat only seem'd a civil war.

Till through their bowels we our passage wrought. *Dryd.*

SWORDBASS. *n. f.* A kind of fedge; glader. *Ainslie.*

SWORDBOOT. *n. f.* [sword and boot.] Ribband tied to the  
hilt of the sword.

Wigs with wigs, swordknives with swordknives strive,  
Beaus banish beaus, and coaches coaches drive. *Pope.*

SWORDLAW. *n. f.* Violence; the law by which all is yielded  
to the stronger.

So violence  
Proceeded, and oppression, and swordlaw,  
Through all the plain, and refuge none was found. *Milton.*

SWORDMAN. *n. f.* [sword and man.] Soldier; fighting man.  
Worthy fellows, and like to prove most finewy sword-  
men. *Shak. All's well that ends well.*

At Lecca's house,  
Among your swordmen, where so many associates  
Both of thy mischief and thy madness met. *Ben. Johnson.*

Edifex was made lieutenant-general of the army, the darling  
of the swordmen. *Clermont.*

SWORDBLAYER. *n. f.* [sword and play.] Gladiator; fencer;  
one who exhibits in publick his skill at the weapons by fight-  
ing prizes.

These they called swordlayers, and this spectacle a sword-  
fight. *Hakewill on Providence.*

SWORE. The preterite of *swear*.

How soon unlay  
What feign'd submission swore. *Milton.*

SWORN. The participle passive of *swear*.

What does else want credit, come to me,  
And I'll be sworn 'tis true. *Shakespeare.*

I am sworn brother, sweet,  
To grim necessity; and he and I  
Will keep a league 'till death. *Shak. Richard II.*

They that are mad against me, are sworn against me. *P.*

He refused not the civil offer of a parafice, though his sworn  
enemy; and would eat at the table of those who fought his  
ruin. *Calamy's Sermons.*

To shelter innocence,  
The nation all elects some patron-knight,  
Sworn to be true to love, and slave to fame,  
And many a valiant chief enrolls his name. *Granville.*

SWUM. Preterite and participle passive of *swim*.

Air, water, earth,  
By fowl, fish, beast, was flown, was walk'd,  
Frequent. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

SWUNG. Preterite and participle passive of *swing*.

Her hand within her hair she wound,  
Swung her to earth, and dragg'd her on the ground. *Addis.*

SWY. *adj.* [Properly *fib*, yib, Saxon.] Related by blood. The  
Scottish dialect still retains it.

If what my grandfire to me said be true,  
Siker I am very *fyb* to you. *Spenser's Pastoral.*

SYCAMINE. *n. f.* A tree.

SYCAMORE. *n. f.* *Acer majus*, one of the kinds of maples: it  
is a quick grower. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

Under the grove of sycamore  
I saw your son. *Shakespeare. Romeo and Juliet.*

If ye had faith as a grain of mustard-seed, ye might say  
unto this sycamine-tree, be thou plucked up, and it should  
obey you. *Lu. xvii. 6.*

I was no prophet, but an herdman, and a gatherer of *sta-*  
more fruit. *Anon viii. 14.*

Go to yonder sycamore-tree, and hide your bottle of drink  
under its hollow root. *Wallen's Angler.*

Sycamores with eglantine were spread;  
A hedge about the sides, a covering over head. *Dryden.*

SYCOPHANT. *n. f.* [συκοφαντης; *sycophantis*, Latin.] A flat-  
terer; a parasite.

Accusing sycophants, of all men, did best fort to his na-  
ture; but therefore not seeming sycophants, because of no evil  
they said, they could bring any new or doubtful thing unto  
him, but such as already he had been apt to determine; so as  
they came but as proofs of his wisdom, fearful and more fe-  
cure, while the fear he had figur'd in his mind had any pos-  
sibility of event. *2*

## S Y L

Men know themselves void of those qualities which the  
impudent sycophant, at the same time, both ascribes to them,  
and in his sleeve laughs at them for believing. *South.*

To SYCOPHANT. *v. n.* [συκοφαντω; from the noun.] To  
play the sycophant. A low bad word.

His sycophanting arts being detected, that game is not to be  
played the second time; whereas a man of clear reputation,  
though his barque be split, has something left towards setting  
up again. *Government of the Tongue.*

SYCOPHANTICK. *adj.* [from sycophant.] Flattering; parasiti-  
cal.

To SYCOPHANTISE. *v. n.* [συκοφαντω; from sycophant.] To  
play the flatterer. *Dist.*

SYLLABICAL. *adj.* [from syllable.] Relating to syllables; con-  
sisting of syllables.

SYLLABICALLY. *adv.* [from syllabical.] In a syllabical manner.

SYLLABICK. *adj.* [syllabique, French; from syllable.] Relating  
to syllables.

SYLLABLE. *n. f.* [συλλαβή; syllaba, French.]

1. As much of a word as is uttered by the help of one vowel, or  
one articulation.

I heard  
Each syllable that breath made up between them. *Shakespeare.*

There is that property in all letters of aptness to be con-  
joined in syllables and words, through the voluble motions of  
the organs from one stop or figure to another, that they modify  
and discriminate the voice without appearing to disconti-  
nue it. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*

2. Any thing proverbially concise.

Abraham, Job, and the rest that lived before any syllable of  
the law of God was written, did they not sin as much as we  
do in every action not commanded? *Hooker.*

To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,  
To the last syllable of recorded time;

And all our yesterday have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

He hath told to many melancholy stories, without one syl-  
lable of truth, that he hath blunted the edge of my fears. *Swift.*

To SYLLABLE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To utter; to pro-  
nounce; to articulate. Not in use.

Airy tongues that syllable mens names  
On banks and shores, and desert wildernesses. *Milton.*

SYLLABUS. *n. f.* [Rightly SYLLABUS, which see.] Milk and  
acids.

No syllables made at the milking pail,  
But what are compos'd of a pot of good ale. *Beaumont.*

Two lines would express all they lay in two pages: 'tis  
nothing but whipt syllabus and froth, without any solidity.

SYLLABUS. *n. f.* [συλλαβή; syllaba, French.] An abstract; a compendium  
containing the heads of a discourse.

SYLLOGISM. *n. f.* [συλλογισμός; syllogisme, French.] An  
argument compos'd of three propositions: as, every man thinks;  
*Peter is a man, therefore Peter thinks.*

Unto them a piece of rhetoric is a sufficient argument of  
logic, an apologue of *Aesop* beyond a syllogism in Barbara.

What a miraculous thing should we count it, if the flint  
and the steel, instead of a few sparks, should chance to knock  
out definitions and syllogisms? *Bentley.*

SYLLOGISTICALLY. *adv.* [συλλογιστικώς; from syllogism.] Re-  
lating to a syllogism; consisting of a  
syllogism.

Though we suppose subject and predicate, and copula, and  
propositions and syllogistical connexions in their reasoning,  
there is no such matter; but the intire business is at the same  
moment present with them, without deducing one thing from  
another. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

Though the terms of propositions may be complex, yet  
where the composition of the whole argument is thus plain,  
simple, and regular, it is properly called a simple syllogism.  
Since the complexion does not belong to the syllogistical form of  
it.

SYLLOGISTICKALLY. *adv.* [from syllogistical.] In the form of  
a syllogism.

A man knows first, and then he is able to prove syllogisti-  
cally; so that syllogism comes after knowledge, when a man  
has no need of it. *Locke.*

To SYLLOGIZE. *v. n.* [συλλογιζω; from syllogize.] To  
reason by syllogism.

Logic is, in effect, an art of syllogizing.

Men have endeavour'd to transform logic into a kind of  
mechanism, and to teach boys to syllogize, or frame arguments  
and refute them, without real knowledge. *Watts.*

SYLVAN. *adj.* [Better *sylvan*.] Woody; shady; relating to  
woods.

Cedar and pine, and fir and branching palm,  
A sylvan scene! and as the ranks ascend,  
Shade above shade, a woody theatre  
Of stateliest view. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

## S Y M

Eternal greens the mossy margin grace,  
Watch'd by the sylvan genius of the place. *Pope.*

SYLVAN. *n. f.* [sylvain, French.] A wood-god, or satyr.

When the sun begins to fling  
His flaming beams, me, goddess, bring  
To arched walks of twilight groves,  
And shadows brown, that sylvan loves,  
Of pine or monumental oak. *Milton.*

Her private orchards wall'd on ev'ry side;  
To lawless sylvans all access deny'd. *Pope.*

SYMBOL. *n. f.* [symbole, French; σύμβολον; symbolum,  
Latin.]

1. An abstract; a compendium; a comprehensive form.

Beginning with the symbol of our faith, upon that the au-  
thor of the gloss enquires into the nature of faith. *Baker.*

2. A type; that which comprehends in its figure a representation  
of something else.

Salt, as incorruptible, was the symbol of friendship; which,  
if it casually fell, was accounted ominous, and their amity of  
no duration. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

Words are the signs and symbols of things; and as, in ac-  
counts, ciphers and figures pass for real sums, so words and  
names pass for things themselves. *South's Sermons.*

The heathens made choice of these lights as apt symbols of  
eternity, because, contrary to all sublunary beings, though  
they seem to perish every night, they renew themselves every  
morning. *Addison on ancient Medals.*

SYMBOLICAL. *adj.* [symbolique, French; συμβολικός; from  
symbol.] Representative; typical; expressing by signs.

By this incroachment idolatry first crept in, men convert-  
ing the symbolical use of idols into their proper worship, and  
receiving the representation of things unto them as the sub-  
stance and thing itself. *Brown.*

The sacrament is a representation of Christ's death, by such  
symbolical actions as himself appointed. *Taylor.*

SYMBOLICALLY. *adv.* [from symbolical.] Typically; by re-  
presentation.

This distinction of animals was hieroglyphical, in the in-  
ward sense implying an abstinence from certain vices, symboli-  
cally intimated from the nature of those animals. *Brown.*

It symbolically teaches our duty, and promotes charity by a  
real signature and a sensible sermon. *Taylor.*

SYMBOLIZATION. *n. f.* [from symbolize.] The act of symbo-  
lizing; representation; resemblance.

The hieroglyphical symbols of Scripture, excellently in-  
tended in the species of things sacrificed in the dreams of Pha-  
raoh, are oftentimes rack'd beyond their symbolizations.

Our king finding himself to symbolize in many things with  
that king of the Hebrews, honoured him with the title of  
this foundation. *Bacon.*

The pleasing of colour symbolizeth with the pleasing of any  
single tone to the ear; but the pleasing of order doth symbolize  
with harmony. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Aristotle and the schools have taught, that air and water,  
being symbolizing elements, in the quality of moisture, are  
easily transmutable into one another. *Boyle.*

They both symbolize in this, that they love to look upon  
themselves through multiplying glasses. *Hewel.*

I affectedly symbolized in careless mirth and freedom with  
the libertines, to circumvent libertinism. *Mora.*

The soul is such, that it strangely symbolizes with the thing  
it mightily desires. *South's Sermons.*

To SYMBOLIZE. *v. a.* To make representative of some-  
thing.

Some symbolize the same from the mystery of its colours.

SYMMETRIAN. *n. f.* [from symmetry.] One eminently stu-  
dious of proportion.

His face was a thought longer than the exact symmetrians  
would allow. *Sidney.*

SYMMETRICAL. *adj.* [from symmetry.] Proportionate; having  
parts well adapted to each other.

SYMMETRIST. *n. f.* [from symmetry.] One very studious or  
oblivious of proportion.

Some exact symmetrists have been blamed for being too true.

SYMMETRY. *n. f.* [symmetria, French; σὺν and μέτρον.]  
Adaptation of parts to each other; proportion; harmony;  
agreement of one part to another.

She by whose lines proportion should be  
Examind, measure of all symmetry;

Whom had that ancient seen, who thought souls made  
Of harmony, he would at next have said  
That harmony was she. *Denne.*

And in the symmetry of her parts is found  
A pow'r, like that of harmony in sound. *Waller.*

Symmetry,